

Amusements and Meetings To-Night.

BOOTH'S THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
BROADWAY THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
NIBLO'S GARDEN—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
PARK THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
STANDARD THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
GRAND SQUARE THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**
WALLACK'S THEATRE—"The Excels." **THE EXCELS.**

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Business Notices.

LUXURY without expense—Eighty choice Norfolk Oysters for 20c. at any of Maltby's depots. Fresh every day.
REPUTED CURED—Forty years' experience—Dr. Maltby's treatment of the only safe and effective cure. Only Office No. 2 West 12th Street, New York City.
THE STEAM CARRIER
 T. M. STEWART, 326 7th Ave. Send for circulars.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1878.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN—Prince Gortschakoff's reply is expected to lead to further diplomatic negotiations. — Russian troops have crossed the Danube to occupy the line from Grigovo to Bucharest. — The Prince George won the Northamptonshire stakes, yesterday. — The famine in China is increasing.

DOMESTIC—A Republican caucus at Washington, yesterday, appointed a Congressional Committee; Senator Sargent offered a resolution asking the President to rescind the office-holders order, which was referred to the committee; the caucus was more than usually harmonious. — The majority of the Committee on Ways and Means has voted in favor of an income tax. — Judge Bartley, a Southern attorney, is out with an argument in behalf of Southern war claims at Washington. — S. Angier Chase, treasurer of the Union Mills Company, of Fall River, has embezzled from the company nearly half a million dollars. — The New York Assembly passed the appropriation bill, the bill requiring the use of iron telegraph poles in New York, the bill to increase the water supply of New York, and a concurrent resolution authorizing the appointment of a commission to examine and report in relation to the Code.

CONGRESS—In the Senate, yesterday, a few private bills were passed; Mr. Gordon brought up General Shields's pension case, and insisted that it was before the Senate; he appealed from the decision of the Chair on the subject, but the case was not taken up; the bill to repeal the bankrupt law was briefly debated. — In the House the Pension Bill was debated in Committee of the Whole, several members opposing the abolition of the pension agencies. — In executive session, the Senate confirmed Professor Hoyt as Governor of Wyoming, and a large number of other nominations.

CITY AND SUBURBAN—Two offers were made yesterday to Secretary Sherman by National banks and members of the Four Per Cent Syndicate for \$50,000,000 bonds. — A mass meeting of Anti-Tammany Democrats demanded reductions in city expenses. — Interesting testimony was given in the Nevill divorce suit. — Mrs. Worcester, a so-called physician in Charles-st., was arrested on a charge of malpractice. — The Board of Trade and Transportation discussed railroad topics. — Publications of Harper & Brothers and other firms were sold at the trade sale. — The pastoral appointments of the New-York East M. E. Conference were announced. — Six witnesses testified in the Vanderbilt will case. — Miss Sanborn delivered her concluding lecture on decorative art. — Gold, 100 1/2, 100 1/4. Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, 99 1/2 cents. Stocks after clearing strong, declined and closed weak.

THE WEATHER—Tribune local observations indicate cloudy, followed by clearing weather, and increasing warmth. Thermometer yesterday, 47°, 52°, 50°.

It is announced from Albany that the veto of the Governor has, after all, been fatal to the supplementary chapters of the New Code, not because of the lack of votes to override the veto, but because of the difficulty of getting them together. This leaves the whole question in an extraordinary muddle, which the Senate has tried to clear by authorizing the appointment of a commission, consisting of members of the present Legislature, to report upon the whole matter to the next Legislature.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson undertook a hopeless task in moving an amendment to the address thanking the Queen for calling out the reserves, but he succeeded in showing that there are with himself sixty-three members who are not afraid to denounce the dangerous policy of the Government. As this minority included Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright, the member for Carlisle can afford to disregard the censure of those who wished him to remain passive in order that Europe might suppose that England is a unit for war.

The caucus of the Republican members of Congress displayed wisdom and moderation in preparing for the Fall campaign, which were all the more gratifying because some outburst of hostility to the President was expected. The Tribune has urged with great earnestness upon the leaders of the party the supreme duty of harmony, and the Republicans in Congress have evidently come to a like conclusion with us. The Executive Committee which has been appointed is not hostile to the Administration, and the spirit of the meeting was in the highest degree conciliatory. Victory lies that way.

Dr. Howard Crosby, in a letter on another page, declares that the agitation of the Excise question in the Legislature is the one thing which paralyzes the administration of the law in this city, and makes unlicensed liquor sellers defiant. As a bill has been introduced at

Albany to incorporate Dr. Crosby's Society for the Prevention of Crime, empowering it to make complaints in the courts and directing prosecuting officers to aid it in its work, its leading spirits may be interested in the fact, noted in our local columns, that the principal liquor dealers have given up hope of legislation in their favor, and that their chief agent has come back from Albany disgusted. This makes it still more likely that the law of 1857 will remain in force, and when the Society for the Prevention of Crime has been given a standing in the Courts, and the Legislature has adjourned, the question of enforcing that law is likely to be tested.

Russia is spreading alarm throughout Roumania by the vigor with which she is taking steps to protect her communications, and secure military control of the Principality. It is unfortunate for Roumania that she is thus constrained to secure by force what she might have enjoyed from good-will; but she could not be expected to forego her claim to Bessarabia, which she was fairly compelled to surrender in 1856, in order that France and England might make-believe they had humbled the Muscovite, and forced him back from the Danube. The irritation on this point might, however, have subsided had not Russia stipulated in the San Stefano Treaty for the free passage of her army through Roumania. The Roumanians did not like to be thus reminded of their nominal subjection to the Porte; but the czar was determined not to leave so important a privilege depending on the caprice of the Government at Bucharest. It is open to Roumania to prolong the quarrel, and be troublesome to Russia, but in the end she may discover that conciliation is her best policy.

Yesterday's vote in the Ways and Means Committee in favor of reimposing the income tax points a moral we have before us upon our readers. All of the six members who voted for the tax are from the South and West; all who voted against it, with one exception, are from the East. And that exception is General Garfield, who happens to be well educated on questions of finance and taxation, and usually votes therefore with Eastern men. Southern and Western members are in favor of this tax because they know the East will have to pay most of it, but this is only one part of the South's scheme. With the help of Western votes or Northern Democratic votes from the neighborhood of Tammany Hall, the South hopes to build railroads, canals, and levees with the spoils of the National Treasury, and to fill up Southern swamps with the money of the North and West. When the alliance approaches this point, the West is likely to think about drawing out from that crowd. Wouldn't it be better to draw out now?

It was time for a deflation, and it was to be expected that the deflator would be respectable. The length of the usual interval seems to be well established by this time, and so also the rule that dishonest cashiers and treasurers shall be of good social position. The case of Mr. Chase, the treasurer of the Union Mills of Fall River, is like pretty much all the other cases, shocking as it is. He had been so thoroughly trusted that he was suspected only when one of the notes of this large corporation went to protest, and then a single night's investigation showed the theft of nearly half a million dollars. The directors who performed at such a late day this task of inspection will probably lose all their property—which they might have saved by doing their duty as directors earlier. Meanwhile Mr. Chase has been serving in the Massachusetts Senate, has been president of a National bank and of a Savings bank, and treasurer of another manufacturing corporation beside the Union Mills; and all the while he has held a high place in the society of his town. He has lived there for half a century—indeed almost all his life, and now confesses his crime over his own signature. The sorrowful lesson of these facts needs no interpretation.

It will be news to many of our readers to hear that the Chinese Government is maintaining in the City of Hartford, at an annual expense of \$100,000, a school where more than a hundred Chinese boys are going through an educational course that is to last fifteen years. But even many who have known of the existence and objects of this institution can hardly have been made acquainted with the romantic history of its inception. This is to be found on another page, in the lecture delivered last night by the Rev. Joseph H. Twichell, of Hartford, before the Kent Club of the Yale Law School. The hero of the story which Mr. Twichell tells in such a simple, unaffected way, and yet so picturesquely, is Yung Wing, who had the good fortune to be brought to this country to get an education, and who conceived, at seventeen, the plan which it took him twenty years to carry into effect. It is the old story of men with great ideas—long years of waiting without a chance to work, long years of working without result, sudden reverses which put him back where he began. A young man so far Americanized that he took prizes at Yale for English composition, and had to learn Chinese again on going back to China, his task was to press upon the most conservative people in the world what seemed a radical, if not a revolutionary, project. He succeeded at last, in a country where the death of an official's mother can delay an enterprise for three years, and rose with the triumph of his idea. Yung Wing is now a mandarin of high degree, and the school he has founded will in a few years send back across the Pacific a hundred young men who, in China, will be statesmen and philosophers. Mr. Twichell is right in calling this "one of the most remarkable institutions of the age," and right in calling Yung Wing "one of the most significant characters of modern civilization."

BUSINESS AND THE BANKS.

The condition of the banks deserves special attention. Their legal-tender average, according to the statement of Saturday, was only \$36,620,700, and this average for the week was probably in excess of the amount actually held on Saturday. This is an extraordinarily small reserve, even for this season, when a considerable depletion is usual. About \$10,700,000 in legal-tenders has gone out since the beginning of February. The outflow during the same season last year was about \$3,500,000; in 1876, about \$11,000,000; in 1875, about \$9,000,000; and in 1874 there was an increase of legal-tender reserve until after April 1. But the balance in the banks was much smaller at the beginning of the year than usual, so that a not unprecedented drain leaves the reserve reduced beyond precedent. It is expected, however, that there will be a large increase of the legal-tender reserve from this time forward, and this expectation is warranted by experience. Last year the banks gained \$18,000,000 by June 30; in 1876 they gained \$22,000,000 by August 5; in 1875 they gained \$27,000,000 by August 5; and in 1874 about

\$7,000,000 by September 1. There is no apparent reason for supposing that the return of legal-tenders will be unusually small this year. But the apprehension of some experienced observers is, that the specie portion of the reserve may be drawn unusually low during the Summer by exports of coin.

From April 1 to September 1, a large share of the coin exports of the year are usually made. Last year, the domestic exports of specie during those months were \$24,664,018, and during the whole year only \$37,420,661. In 1876, the exports from April 1 to September 1 were \$29,323,991, and during the whole year, \$47,973,762. In 1875, the exports from April 1 to September 1 were \$42,623,218, and during the whole year, \$70,108,852. In 1874, the amount exported during those months was \$34,972,630, and during the whole year, \$66,544,393. If the exports of specie should be as large during this Summer as might be expected from recent sales of bonds, or as large as they were in 1875 or 1874, it is feared by some that the reserves of the New-York banks, now composed more largely of specie than of greenbacks, would be dangerously reduced. But little reason for this fear will be found in the records of the specie movement hitherto. In 1877, the specie in the New-York banks was reduced \$11,500,000 from April 1 to September 1, but because the specie in the Treasury, in excess of coin certificates, increased about \$30,000,000 during the same time. In 1876, the banks actually gained \$1,000,000 and the Treasury lost \$9,000,000 during these months, although about \$30,000,000 was exported. In 1875, also, the banks gained in specie, and the Treasury lost only \$6,500,000, though nearly \$40,000,000 was exported. And in 1874, the banks lost less than \$7,000,000, and the Treasury as much more, while the exports were \$35,000,000. These comparisons show that exports of specie even larger than there is any reason to apprehend may be made without materially depleting the store in the banks or in the Treasury, and it must also be remembered that the annual production of the precious metals is believed to be larger now than it was in either of the years mentioned.

It is supposed that the production of precious metals is now about \$7,000,000 per month. From September 1, 1877, to March 1, 1878, a period of six months, the production is supposed to have been about \$42,000,000, and during that time imports of specie actually exceeded exports by \$1,300,000. Hence, at the beginning of March the store of specie in the country must have been fully \$40,000,000 larger than it was September 1, if over \$3,000,000 be allowed for six months' consumption in the arts. Of this accumulation, about \$23,000,000 was in the New-York banks and about \$14,500,000 in the Treasury, leaving at least \$2,500,000 elsewhere. During the month of March the excess of exports of specie at New-York was only about \$860,000, and if the production was about \$7,000,000, we began the month of April with at least \$46,000,000 more of specie in the country than there was September 1, of which \$12,000,000 more was in the Treasury not covered by certificates, and \$26,000,000 more in the New-York banks, leaving an increase of about \$7,500,000 elsewhere. All this accumulation, besides the production of \$7,000,000 per month, must be exported before any drain, necessarily depleting the banks or the Treasury, can occur.

The conclusions preceding are based upon the estimate of production made by Dr. Linderman, Director of the Mint. But the yearly statement by Wells, Fargo & Co., if accepted, would indicate a production of about \$96,000,000, and thus would materially strengthen the conclusions here reached. It is not improbable that the statement of Wells, Fargo & Co., based upon returns of quantities of coin and bullion actually transported, may be the more correct, but, in order to be quite within the mark, the estimates of Dr. Linderman have been followed.

The sales of bonds officially reported last week were \$4,145,000, against \$5,148,250 during the previous week, and \$4,836,100 during the week ending March 23. Of the sales last week, \$2,640,000 were coupon bonds. The decrease in sales of bonds of that kind, even more than the decrease in aggregate sales, indicates a diminution in foreign orders to sell, but it must not be supposed that the transactions officially reported afford any accurate measure of the entire sales made. A very encouraging feature is the continued excess of exports over imports. Since January 1, the exports from New-York have been larger by about \$24,000,000 than those of the corresponding period last year, while imports have been about \$10,000,000 smaller. At Boston, also, a gain of about \$3,000,000 appears in exports. Probably imports are everywhere retarded by the expectation of a change of duties. If the condition of foreign trade does not greatly change before Congress adjourns, it is possible that we may get through the Summer without exports of specie exceeding the quantity produced.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF'S REPLY.

Prince Gortschakoff's reply to the British circular is conciliatory in tone and argumentative in form, but the logic is very keen. He is too wary a diplomatist to irritate unnecessarily a nation whose warlike instincts have been aroused. He does not fire off pistols in the air. He argues the case with the business-like precision and sustained confidence of a lawyer who knows that he has a strong brief and that all the questions of law and of fact are in his favor. He takes up the objections which the Marquis of Salisbury has raised to the Treaty of San Stefano, and traverses them one after another. The territorial cessions he justifies as the natural consequence of the war, and he contends that if Great Britain wished to avert them she should have joined Russia in enforcing the righteous demands of the Constantinople Conference. This ground of defence is certainly very strong, especially when we bear in mind that the British Foreign Office was officially informed of the ulterior designs of the Russian Government as early as last June. Quite as acute is the Chancellor's reasoning concerning the claims of Thessaly and Epirus, on which the British Government has laid great stress since the Treaty of Peace was signed, although it had labored unceasingly during the war to repress the zeal of the Greeks, and to prevent them from joining the circle of alliances against the Porte. He points out that by the modest reforms stipulated for in the treaty, his Government has avoided the appearance of either establishing Russian supremacy or utterly neglecting the Greeks. Here he presents the finest and most delicate edge of his diplomacy. When he refers to the occupation of Bessarabia and the reconstruction of Bulgaria, his method is conciliatory. He declares that as the freedom of the Danube is secured by the International Commission there is no longer any pretext for debarring Russia from reestablishing her for-

mer frontier. He apparently forgets that Roumania has some rights which the European Powers ought to respect. Bulgaria, moreover, according to his view, will no more be under Russian control than was Roumania, and the arrangements relative to the government of the new principality are only a development of principles established by the Conference. Roumania, however, was organized under European auspices, in accordance with the Treaty of Paris, and the process was not supervised by Russian commissioners, with an army of occupation behind them; and, to say nothing of the conditions of administration, the new limits of Bulgaria differ widely from those which the Conference suggested. But while the reply of the Chancellor is not conclusive on these points, he sums up the case admirably. He holds that if the Marquis of Salisbury himself recognizes that great changes are necessary in the treaties hitherto regulating the East, he is bound not only to raise objections to the conditions of peace but also to present some practical basis of settlement. In a word, the British Foreign Office must find out what it wants, and define its policy without further ado. It must do something besides hedge.

From the moment when the embers of revolt burst into a flame in Herzegovina down to this day, the British Foreign Office has adopted a deviating policy of let-do, half-do, and not-do. At every stage of recent diplomacy it has gone half way and turned back without doing anything. At one time it encouraged the Porte to suppress the insurrection of Christian subjects, and then recoiled with horror at the ghastly work in Bulgaria. It defeated a European alliance against Turkey at Berlin, and subsequently united with the European Powers in the demands of the Conference. It has alternately coaxed and threatened the Sultan. At Constantinople it has proclaimed the doctrine of non-intervention, while in Europe it has undertaken to enforce the policy of non-ceremon and inaction. Unstable diplomacy such as this could lead to nothing. The Nation is to-day in a humiliating position before Europe, without having a definite policy in the East or a cause of war which Englishmen in their sober senses can recognize. In the recent circular to the Great Powers the Foreign Office admitted that its opposition to the Treaty of San Stefano was not based upon the language of any single article, but upon the operation of the instrument as a whole. The Marquis of Salisbury has been complimented for the frankness and simplicity of his circular. But was it well to turn British diplomacy inside out like a pocket, and enable Prince Gortschakoff to prove that there was very little in it?

That what are known as British interests are menaced by the success of the Russian arms and the impending dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, there can be no doubt; but the diplomatists of St. Petersburg have done their work well and secured themselves at every turn. At the close of a war undertaken in the name of Europe they can well afford to be conciliatory, even in their bearing to their rivals in London. The tone of the Chancellor is in this respect excellent. His reply will make it easier for the two nations to come to an understanding, especially when one of them cannot afford to undertake another war and the other cannot find a reasonable pretext for fighting.

THE NEW MAN AT THE DOOR.

We congratulate Congress and the country. The old score has been wiped out. Mr. Cox has expressed the opinion, that "in all our functions of Government we should turn to 'amnesty, kindness, and gentleness,' and add the fresh suggestion that we should 'let the dead past bury its dead.' Mr. Blackburn has avowed his willingness to 'despise' here or elsewhere the man who seeks to make 'either personal profit or political character' out of revamping issues which belong to 'the darkest period of this country's history.' Mr. Clymer has distinctly stated that he considers everything in political history, except the results of the last Democratic caucus, as bygones that ought to be let be, belonging to a past that ought to be buried; and, to crown all, there's a new Doorkeeper at the door. This is, we believe, the fourth Doorkeeper the Democratic party has blessed the country with since its accession to a taste of power. So that whenever in coming campaigns the eloquent advocate and defender of the party on the stump is assailed by irrelevant persons in the background with the stale conundrum, "What has the Democratic party done for the country?" he need not answer, "It has redressed the expenses of the Government"—and take the chances of being answered that a Democratic majority in one Congress cut down appropriations for their successors in another to make up in deficiency bills, and that they cut down all salaries but their own, and crippled all other departments while increasing their own patronage. They need not take any such chances now. For when any scolder asks what the Democratic party has done for the country, the orator may straighten himself up proudly and reply, "Done for the country?" "More than any other party ever did or attempted in the same length of time. It has given the country four Doorkeepers in less than three years." Four Doorkeepers! And then he can point to the last one (possibly) with pride, and bury the past.

Of the new Doorkeeper's capacity for the duties of the important office he has been called from Egypt to fill, we cannot yet speak advisedly. The country, and the Democratic party especially, will watch his doorkeeping for the next three or four months with the profoundest interest. He has yet to prove that he is capable of the tone and quality of door-keeping which the country and his party demand. He knows, or should know by this time, what difficulties and what temptations and what perils beset his predecessors, who boldly bared their breasts to the whole Democratic party in the imminent deadly breach they were appointed to keep door in, and fell before the fearful onset. He has not merely to open and shut a door; he must provide places for a hundred thousand Democrats in the doorkeeping department. And not merely find places, but snug places, where they will escape public observation and draw regular pay. He has been a Major-General—not that we wish to revive the past or recall bygones; we allude to the fact only because it was doubtless the occasion of his being selected for the place—he must exhibit in this position not simply the fighting quality necessary to resist the onset of an army, but the abilities of a chief of the quartermaster's and commissary departments. Herein was where his predecessors failed. They could not furnish supplies for a hundred thousand from the limited resources of the department pay-rolls. He has been recalled from Egypt for the purpose of illustrating and demonstrating the capacity of the Democratic party for doorkeeping. It

was after three trials and failures that the party said, almost with the voice of one man: "We will have that door kept if we have to 'send to the uttermost parts of the earth for a keeper.' The feeling was universal that the party had met its sorest trial, its deadliest peril, its crucial test, at the very threshold of its new career. Having secured possession of the House, they could find no one competent to keep the door of it. Mr. Randall and Mr. Clymer and Mr. Cox, and all the great and noble leaders of the party, exhausted the resources of statesmanship on the subject. And sceptical persons said, 'If these fellows can't keep door for a public hall, what would they do if they 'had the keys to the Treasury?'

And now Major General Field, of Georgia, is on post and trying his hand at it. Congress had a great time electing him. Mr. Butler was tearful and pathetic. Mr. Cox magnanimous and forgiving, Mr. Clymer logical. Mr. Hutton biographical, Mr. Hale exasperating. Mr. Blackburn impassioned, and Mr. Eden "interrupting," but all bent on having the best doorkeeping that could be afforded for the money. It resulted in the choice of Major-General Field. He ought to feel flattered at having had so much time and such ample discourse devoted to himself and the office. He probably does. He holds an office now that the Democratic party has tried three times and failed to find an honest and competent man for. It remains to be seen how he will succeed. He certainly has our best wishes; for we are getting tired of this fleeting panorama of doorkeepers. We presume he has the sympathy of everybody. And we need not tell him he can count on the cooperation of Georgia, for by this time the able-bodied population of that State are either in Washington or on their way there to offer their cooperation in person.

LITERARY DIPLOMATISTS.

Mr. Bayard Taylor sails to-day for Europe, there to enter upon his duties as American Minister to Germany. His appointment has naturally caused some discussion of the fitness of literary men for diplomatic positions, but it does not appear to have been generally understood that their capacity for such public work was long ago discovered, in other countries as well as our own, and in ancient as well as modern times. In English history there are several names which will readily be recalled, and among them those of Sir Henry Wotton, who in 1633 was English Ambassador to the United Provinces, and afterward to Venice, and of Sir John Denham, who was the diplomatic agent of Charles I. in France. To come nearer our own day we find Nicolson, greatly distinguished in other and different ways, doing good service to his country as Prussian Ambassador to the Court of Rome. Among modern English diplomatists also literary men, may be mentioned Sir Stratford Canning, who wrote a tragedy about Alfred the Great, and Sir Henry Bulwer, who was once at Washington, as British Minister.

If we turn to American history we shall find that more than one "literary fellow" was early sent abroad in the service of his country. Joel Barlow, celebrated as the author of "The Columbiad," was rather a distinguished diplomatic character in his day. He was sent by Madison to France, and appears to have been considered a character of some importance, for he was summoned, at a critical period, by Napoleon, to Wilna. Nothing came of the visit except the death of Barlow, who was taken fatally sick on his way back to France. David Humphreys, a small Connecticut poet, went to France, as secretary of legation, with Jefferson in 1784. He was Minister to Portugal from 1791 to 1797, and then held the same office in Spain until 1802. Franklin, we suppose, may be regarded as a literary as well as scientific character. His diplomatic successes are known to all the world. In modern times, the writers have by no means been overlooked in the selection of ministers. Mr. Wheaton, for so many years our Minister at the Court of Prussia, not only distinguished himself as an author of works on international law, and as a writer of biography, but also as the author of "The History of the Northmen." Mr. Irving, our Minister to Spain, stands in the front rank of American letters. Mr. Bancroft, Minister to England and to Prussia, and Mr. Motley, who represented us in Austria and England, were authors of the highest repute. Mr. Bigelow, our Minister to France in 1865, is distinguished as a journalist, and as the compiler of an excellent life of Franklin. Equally well known as a journalist was Mr. James S. Pike, who was our Minister to the Netherlands from 1861 to 1868. Mr. George H. Boker, a writer of ability, has represented us both at the Turkish and the Russian courts. General James Watson Webb, so well known in New-York as a journalist, has been the Minister of the United States both in Austria and Brazil. Mr. Lowell, the poet, is now our Minister to Spain, and great results are anticipated from his studies in that interesting country. Mr. George P. Marsh, eminent as a statesman and successful philologist, has been the United States Minister in Turkey and in Italy. Mr. Theodore S. Fay, well-remembered as a New-York journalist, as associate editor of the old *Mirror*, and as a novelist, was our Minister resident in Switzerland from 1853 to 1861; and Colonel John Hay, who has won distinction both as a poet and journalist, was our Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at Vienna in 1868, and has ably discharged other diplomatic appointments also. Mr. Horace Greeley, it will be remembered, was commissioned Minister to Austria in 1867, but declined the appointment. Several eminent literary persons have held consular positions, but of these we do not propose to speak more particularly.

Such are some of the men of letters who have figured in the diplomatic service of the United States. The result of our experience in sending them abroad has been a fortunate and encouraging one. Really, our best ministers have been writers of books, or gentlemen in other ways distinguished for literary culture. The fact shows that qualifications for this service are not entirely disregarded. We may not be able to keep shallowness and ignorance, cupidity and pretension out of our public affairs; but every appointment of a first-rate man to a first-rate place is a gain in the right direction. This will reconcile his numerous friends to the absence of Mr. Taylor; nor is it ungracious to anticipate his return after he has well accomplished the duties to which he has been or may be assigned.

As some of the readers of THE TRIBUNE have possibly not understood the tables of comparative circulation published in these columns yesterday, it may be well to explain that the figures represent the number of pounds weight upon which postage was charged by the Post Office Department to each of the journals mentioned in the table. That is to say, for the quarter ending March 31, 1878, THE TRIBUNE paid postage on 224,643 pounds; THE HERALD on 214,767; THE TIMES on 101,750; and THE WORLD on 100,765. THE HERALD, with its quadruple and quin-

tuple sheets, and THE TIMES, with its thick paper, are heavier, copy for copy, than THE TRIBUNE, and all the papers, except ours, are published seven times a week. THE TRIBUNE, therefore, leads the others in average circulation through the mails even more decidedly than the postal returns might seem at the first glance to indicate.

One great advantage possessed by the new Websterian Folding Press, which we described yesterday, is that it can print either a double or a single line of papers from the same roll. Anybody can make a press capable of printing in duplicate from duplicate sets of plates. But the merit of Messrs. Hoe's invention is that the production is duplicated without any change in the size or number of the cylinders or in the size of the paper. The same web is used indifferently for the old style of perfecting press, delivering single eight-page sheets from a single set of forms, and for the new style which turns out two simultaneous streams of eight-page sheets, either folded for the mail or merely doubled over for the carrier.

POLITICAL NOTES.

What are you giving us, Mr. Wood? Ancient history?

The Democracy will have no peace till it abolishes Doorkeeping entirely.

All the Senate Finance Committee need to do about the Resumption Act is to vote to let it alone.

The silver agitator will make a greater uproar than ever when he hears that there are to be no new mints. He hoped for a dozen at least.

Mr. Wood advertised that he was going to lead his speech with so many new facts that everybody would be converted to his views. And then he left them all out.

The Republican journals are entirely unanimous in the belief that it is of more importance to carry the Congressional elections this Fall than to snub the President. Future Republican causes would do well to proceed on that basis.

It is announced that the National Executive Democratic Committee proposes to publish a detailed statement of the moneys received and disbursed during the last Presidential campaign, for the purpose of putting a stop to such lies as those of Eaton, of Kansas. It would be a mighty interesting reading if published as complete over an altar from Mr. Hewitt.

That perspiring friend of the people, Hendrick B. Wright, has squandered his sweetness on the desert air. He has just moved for the issue of a trifle of four hundred millions of money for the oppressed people, to be called National money, and in the very face of the demand the National party of Pennsylvania has decided to nominate some other man for Senator. Wright thought he had had a sure thing of it, too. He certainly has earned it.

The proposition to fasten a bill to repeal the Resumption Act to the Legislative and Executive Appropriation Bill is said to have been revived by the discovery that the Senate Finance Committee is in danger of voting to take no action at present. Senator Bayard thinks he can count four votes in the committee against the repeal bill, and he has hopes that Senator Allison will join them. There are nine votes in the committee, so that the decision rests with Mr. Allison.

The Democratic party seems determined to load itself thoroughly for the Fall campaign. If it puts the income tax on top of its other burdens it will have all the baggage it will wish to carry. The party can send more votes to the Republicans by the renewal of that odious tax than by almost any other process. The unhappy man who is trying to support a large family on \$2,000 a year is going to vote for the continued power of a party which takes \$20 of his salary by force to help meet deficiencies, which the same party's bungling management has caused.

General Butler's defence of Shields has penetrated as far as Leavenworth, Kan., and called forth from a large meeting of Irish citizens a rousing series of resolutions, thanking him for "his generous act and eloquent words in behalf of one whom the whole people delight to honor, and who will live in history when the names of those who were not manly enough to remember the old hero will be forgotten." Thus it will appear that in order to testify to you, South, the Democrats have not only offended the Irish citizen, but they have actually done it for the sake of rewarding a man who turns out to be more Republican than Democrat. There never was a party which had such a perfect genius for putting its foot in it.

Mr. Blair's efforts to unseat the President don't meet with much favor anywhere, but they receive downright denunciation from the South. The brethren there are unusually emphatic in their declarations that they will have nothing to do with any scheme which has a tendency to bring about the re-nomination of Mr. Tilden. They do not say why they are so stirred against him, but it is easy to find a reason in his famous letter against the payment of Southern claims. Of course, it is familiar history that they were opposed to his nomination in 1876, but they succeeded at St. Louis. If Mr. Tilden were to seek to go to St. Louis with this question: "Which do you prefer to have, a candidate whom you don't like, but who can be elected, or one whom you do like, but who cannot be elected?" the chances are that they would swallow their objections and nominate him at once.

PERSONAL.

Speaker Randall is going to France as soon as Congress adjourns.

Miss Braddon is writing a new novel with the curious title of "The Vixen."

Mr. Bayard Taylor's bust has been modelled by Mr. Marshall Swaine, and will remain at Kenos Square.

Charles Reade has written a new play, called "A Brave Wife," and it will shortly be brought out in London. It is founded on "Auld Reekie."

Ex-Governor Dennison is about to resign his position as a Commissioner of the District of Columbia, and will go back to Columbus and his law practice.

A statue of John Brown is to be the contribution of Kansas to the National Statuary Hall in the Capitol.

When Lady Rosebery entered her husband's house in Scotland, the other day, the housekeeper met her at the door, and in accordance with an old Scotch custom, broke an oatmeal cake over the bride's head.

Prince Stolberg, the new Vice-Chancellor of Germany, is a member of an exceedingly ancient and aristocratic family. It was one of the Stolbergs who married Prince Charles Edward Stuart, the young Pretender.

Charles Crosby, a well-mannered old colored man, who is said to have been the personal attendant of Aaron Burr, is quoted by THE PORTSMOUTH (N.H.) TIMES as saying in regard to Burr's political ambitions: "I have heard him say often that he had no intention whatever upon any territory then belonging to the United States. He intended to conquer Mexico, and there establish an Empire."

General G. T. Beauregard writes to Mr. Reavis concerning General W. R. Harney at the battle of Cerro Gordo: "It was truly exhilarating to see him charging sword in hand, along the steep slope of that high hill, his tall, manly figure towering far above all the officers and men who surrounded him. It was a sight never to be forgotten! He was one of the first inside the enemy's works, unharmed and ready to attack the other position on our right flank. He was the first to be killed. From that time to the end of the war General Harney became the favorite of all the young officers of the army, who always looked with kindliness and reverence upon him, and which distinguished him to this day."